



HAUT-COMMISSARIAT AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME • OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
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15 May 2015

Excellency,

I wish to inform you that the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, in the course of its 86th session, considered the follow-up report submitted by the Government of Portugal, pursuant to Rule 65 (1) of the Rules of Procedure of the Committee.

The Committee welcomes the submission of the report, in response to its request to receive information within one year on the implementation of the recommendations contained in paragraphs 18, 19 and 20 of the concluding observations (CERD/C/PRT/CO/12-14), adopted following the consideration of the State party's combined 12th to 14th periodic report during its 80th session in February-March 2012.

The Committee appreciates the opportunity provided to continue its dialogue with the State party, and would like to draw the State party's attention to the observations mentioned below. The Committee requests that comments and responses on actions taken by the State party on these issues be included in its 15th to 17th periodic reports to be submitted in a single document on 23 September 2015.

Paragraph 18 of the Concluding Observations: The Committee notes the State party's implementation of strategies that aim at eliminating gender inequality, and its cooperation with professionals that work in social inclusion domain. Nevertheless, the Committee reminds the State party that its particular concern was with regard to the intersection between gender inequality and racial discrimination and it is in this specific concern that the Committee requires information and updates.

His Excellency
Mr. Pedro Nuno Bártolo
Permanent Representative of Portugal
to the United Nations
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Paragraph 19 of the Concluding Observations: The Committee welcomes the adoption of the National Strategy for the Integration of Roma Communities (2013-2020) and other measures with a view to promoting the economic, social and cultural rights of the Ciganos and Roma. While noting positive aspects of the presented scheme, the Committee stresses the importance of a successful implementation of these measures. The Committee requests that the State party provide it with extensive information on the implementation and impact of the National Strategy for the Integration of Roma Communities.

Paragraph 20 of the Concluding Observations: The Committee commends the State party for a number of initiatives on human rights implemented despite the economic crisis and encourages the State party to keep up with its efforts. The Committee requests updated information on the results further achieved.

Rest assured, Excellency, that the Committee looks forward to continuing its constructive dialogue with the Government of Portugal, with a view to providing it with assistance in its efforts to ensure the effective implementation of the Convention.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

José Francisco Calí Tzay
Chair

Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination